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May 17, 1999 LB 355

should have a chance to get their day in court about expansions or changes in CHIP as we do this rather than to do this on Select File under these conditions. My guess is it's easy to have an oversight but the next time we do this on Select File I'm going to cry foul because I'd like to have the policyholders to have a better say than that. We are in a situation because this ends January 1 of 2000 we won't have a legislative session before we get a chance to do something. This is appropriate. I support the Tyson amendment and I intend to vote for it. I also intend to see if this becomes a thing of the past so that we don't have to do this again. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Robak, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Tyson amendment as Senator Tyson and Senator Landis explained does nothing to hurt the mental health parity bill, LB 355 still stands on its own. So if you happen to like the amendment as they explained the bill, then you may vote for it or you will vote for it. If not, then you will do whatever you want to do, but it does not hurt LB 355. The mental health parity bill is not touched by this amendment. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Robak. There are no further lights on the amendment. Senator Tyson, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR TYSON: Just to reaffirm what Senator Robak has said. This doesn't change one word, one punctuation mark on LB 355. LB 355, as you know, is a compromise bill after a number of years of Senator Robak working in this area. I think she should be commended for the amount of work that she has done and the stick-to-it-iveness that she has shown on this. I do urge you to vote for AM1823. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. The question is the adoption of the Tyson amendment, AM1823 to LB 355. All in favor vote aye, all opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of Senator Tyson's amendment.